

# Revolution, Re-unification, & Rebuilding 1985 – present

## AP European History Ch. 31

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Per. \_\_\_\_\_

1. What is meant by the re-Stalinization of the Soviet block and the Soviet Union? Give examples.

*Developed in the aftermath of the 1968 invasion of Czechoslovakia, it was a collective rather than personal dictatorship in which coercion rather than terror was used to control people. It was a compromise that suited leaders and the people, although free expression and open protest disappeared and dissidents were blacklisted.*

2. Discuss the Solidarity movement in Poland in terms of origins, objectives, and outcome. What is meant by the claim that it was a “self-limiting” revolution?

*Origin: workers protesting high meat prices in August 1980 spread*

*Objectives: the right to form free trade unions, right to strike, free speech, release of Political prisoners*

*Outcome: Gdansk Agreement – self-limiting revolution to avoid a Red Army attack as in Czechoslovakia & Hungary -*

*Pope John Paul II inspired Poles with ideas of their inalienable rights*

3. What were the motives and methods of Gorbachev?

*Motives: Believed communism was falling behind the west’s capitalism and technology, realized that improvement at home required better relations with the west*

*Methods: Perestroika – economic restructuring eased govt. controls*

*Glasnost – policy of openness that allowed free speech & expression*

*Democratization*

*Rescinded Brezhnev Doctrine*

- 3b. Why did Gorbachev topple from power?

*1. His reaction to economy but not military action against Lithuania’s independence*

*2. Abolishment of Communist party’s monopoly of political power and expansion of the Congress of Peoples Deputies*

*3. Coup of hardline Communists failed and showed communism was dead*

*4. Soviet Union disintegrated*

4. Identify the following information about the revolutions of 1989

Revolutions	Participants	Results
Poland	Solidarity and Polish people Communist Government	Solidarity was legalized, majority of Polish parliament to be chosen in free elections, communists lost the majority
Hungary	Hungarian Communist Party called for free elections, opened borders with East Germany and Austria	Massive exodus of eastern Europeans to the west

Czechoslovakia	Velvet Revolution – popular demonstration of students, intellectuals, etc. vs. Communist Party	Protestors forced communists to share power, Communists resigned, and an elected assembly elected Vaclav Haval president
Romania	Dictatorship of Nicholas Ceausescu sent ruthless forces to slaughter protestors, sparking a spontaneous uprising	Ceausescu and his wife were executed and reforms were made

5. Describe what happened to the Soviet Union under Boris Yeltsin.

*Outlawed communist party and confiscated its property; withdrew Russia from The Soviet Union*

6. What were the causes of German reunification?

*Opening of the east led to economic interest in the west by east Germans, skillful actions of Helmut Kohl to unify, and the promise of economic bonanza*

6b. How was the reunification tied to events in the Soviet Union?

*Germany offered large loans to the struggling Soviets in exchange for unification  
Soviets and western allies still had special rights there but it didn't develop into a Cold War issue*

7. Describe the “new global economy” model that most European states began to follow in the 1990s. Were they successful?

- *Free movement of capital and goods and services*
- *Limited government deficits*
- *Low inflation*

8. Were the new states of Hungary, Poland, and the Czech Republic successful in the 1990s? Explain.

*Yes – each had major economic goals & joined NATO in 1997*

*Poland – had the fastest economic growth*

*Czechoslovakia – privatized the most completely and had the most foreign investment*

*Hungary – developed a sophisticated market*

9. What happened in the former Yugoslavia to cause its civil war?

*After Tito's death in 1980 there was no longer strong control, and power passed to the republics, which encouraged a revival of regional and ethnic conflicts. Republic leaders couldn't agree on a constitution and abolished Yugoslavia's League of Communists in 1990. Serbia tried to expand, opposed Bosnian independence*

9b. How was it (the civil war) dealt with by the outside world?

*Scenes of cruelty and slaughter were televised regularly, the west was slow to respond, and in 1995 Bosnian Serbs overran UN safe area, which led to a cry for western and NATO actions*

10. In what ways had the European Union moved toward economic unity?

*Maastricht Treaty – creation of a single currency (Euro) by 1999*

10b. Why have some people opposed this?

- *many resented the unending rules handed by the EU's bureaucracy in Brussels*
- *many feared popular sovereignty and democratic control would be threatened*
- *many feared budget cuts, etc., were hurting them and that the new Europe was being created at their empire's expense*

### **Things to know**

1. Gdansk Agreement of 1980 – *Between Polish Communist govt. and striking workers that allowed the right to form free trade unions, to strike, free speech, release of political prisoners, and economic reform*
2. Single European Act of 1986 – *laid a detailed legal framework for establishing a single market that would aid the free movement of labor, capital, and services to the existing free market trade of goods*
3. Maastricht Treaty of 1990 – *Set financial criteria for joining the proposed monetary union and anticipated the development of common policies on defense and foreign affairs after achieving monetary union by the EU*
4. Paris Accord of 1990 – *Delegation of 22 European countries, US, USSR agreed to scale down armed forces, recognized existing borders, including a unified Germany, as legal and valid, generally a peace treaty bringing an end to WWII and the Cold War*
5. “Polish miracle” of 1980 – *Hope that an influx of western money would flow into Poland following a new communist government, which would then win popular support – the transition from a command to a free market economy was a success*
6. Solidarity – *Polish labor union – led movement that led to the collapse of communist rule in Poland*

7. *perestroika* – Gorbachev's policy of restructuring the Soviet economy with less government control
8. *glasnost* – Gorbachev's policy of openness that allowed free speech and expression
9. "Euro" currency – Uniform currency for the EU to make international trade easier; established by the Maastricht Treaty in 1991 to be established by 1999
10. Mikhail Gorbachev – Soviet leader who undertook great reforms that ultimately led to the disintegration of the USSR
11. Boris Yeltsin – President of Russia who instituted shock therapy to transform Soviet economy to a free market. He removed price controls, privatized industry, which led to incredible inflation (250%), concentrated power in the presidency
12. Lech Walesa – Leader of Solidarity
13. Nicolae Ceausescu – Romanian communist dictator ousted in an overthrow in 1989
14. Helmut Kohl – West German chancellor who developed a plan for German reunification
15. Saddam Hussein – Leader of Iraq, invaded Kuwait in 1990
16. Slobodan Milosevic – President of Serbia and responsible for policy of ethnic cleansing
17. François Mitterand – French president who signed the Maastricht treaty
18. Jacques Chirac – Successor of Mitterand, the president of France
19. Velvet Revolution – 1989 Czechoslovakian bloodless revolution that ended communist rule
20. Dayton Accord 1995 - Bosnian Serbs forced to remain in a loose federal state where they ruled 49% of the country & Muslim-Croatian alliance the rest. NATO and US troops are there as peacekeepers